## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Date: June 18, 2004

BECKER, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2178

Serial No.: 09/507,484

Examiner: J. Ludwig

Filed: February 10, 2000

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(c))

ssioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 707.05(b) of the MPEP and 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, a copy is herewith submitted (attached to form PTO-1449, Rev. 7-80) of documents which may be relevant to the invention as claimed in the above-identified application.

It is requested that the Examiner fully consider the documents cited, initial the leftmost column of the attached PTO Form 1449 adjacent each cited document, and return a copy of the Form 1449 for applicants' records. It is further requested that the documents be cited on the cover of any patent

issuing from the subject application.

The citation of the above documents should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made; or that other, more pertinent information is not available. Nor does this statement constitute an admission by applicant or applicants' attorney that the information provided herein is necessarily relevant information to applicants' invention. Moreover, applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed documents should they be applied there-against as references.

The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of this national application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but before the mailing date of either a final action under 1.113 or a notice of allowance under 1.311, whichever occurs first.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the above paper/fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 18, 2004.

Person mailing paper/fee: Frances Diaz. Signature Truces Pray

S/N: 09/507,484

TUC919990063US1

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is

x a certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e)

OR

the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 1.97(c). (\$240.00)

Please charge Deposit Account 09-0449 in the amount of \$240.00. A duplicate of this request is attached.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account 09-0449.

Respectfully submitted,

BECKER, et al.

By:

Allen K. Bates (#50,276)
Patent Agent for Applicant(s)
IBM Corporation, IP Law

9000 S. Rita Road, 90A/9032 Tucson, AZ 85744

(520) 799-2800

Form PTO-1449

Docket No.: TUC91999063US1

**Application: No: 09/507,484** 

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION** 

Applicant: Becker, et al.

IN AN APPLICATION (Use Several Sheets It Necessary)

Filing Date: 02/10/2000

Group Art Unit: 2178

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| la S TOMETON THEME DOCUMENTS |                                |           |                      |                          |  |          |                         |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|--|
| Examiner (                   | Examine TRADEN Document Number |           | Publicatio n<br>Date | Country of Patent Office |  | Subclass | Translation<br>Yes / No |  |
|                              | 1A                             | 10-222523 | 08/21/98             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1в                             | 10-116220 | 05/06/98             | JP                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1C                             | 10-301748 | 11/13/98             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1D                             | 8-314949  | 11/29/96             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1 <u>E</u>                     | 11-328212 | 11/30/99             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1F                             | 10-171705 | 06/26/98             | JP                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1G                             | 11-338878 | 12/10/99             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
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|                              | 11                             | 11-110399 | 04/23/99             | JP                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1J                             | 9-259028  | 10/03/97             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1K                             | 9-153912  | 06/10/97             | JР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1L                             | 8-314790  | 11/29/96             | JP                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |
|                              | 1M                             | 10-307746 | 11/17/98             | ЛР                       |  |          | Yes/Abstract            |  |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| Examiner<br>Initial |  |        |         |         |  |
|---------------------|--|--------|---------|---------|--|
|                     |  | <br>   |         |         |  |
| Evaminer            |  | <br>D- | to Cong | idorod. |  |

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.